



U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE ON

Finance

SENATOR CHUCK GRASSLEY, OF IOWA - CHAIRMAN

<http://finance.senate.gov>

MEMORANDUM

To: Reporters and Editors
Re: Japanese beef tariffs
Da: Wednesday, July 30, 2003

Senator Chuck Grassley, chairman of the Committee on Finance, today made the following comment regarding reports that Japan intends to raise tariffs on imports of refrigerated beef from the current 38.5 percent to 50 percent. Under its Temporary Tariff Measures Law, Japan can impose such tariffs if cumulative quarterly imports rise by 17 percent from the same period a year earlier.

“I’m very disappointed by reports that Japan plans to increase tariffs on refrigerated beef through the snapback provision found in its Temporary Tariff Measures Law. I’ve let the Japanese know of my opposition to this measure. Recent increased imports of beef into Japan can be attributed directly to increased consumption due to recovery from the market collapse caused by the discovery of BSE in Japan in 2001. Japan’s snapback measure was never intended to address such an extraordinary situation.”